

USDA/Rural Development

2514 SOUTH I ROAD, SUITE 4, EDINBURG, TEXAS • e-mail: Roel.Gomez@tx.usda.gov
VOICE: 956-383-4928 • FAX: 956-383-6080 • TDD: 254-742-9712 - Web Site: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>

News Release

TX.078.02

For More Information Contact:
Roel Gomez

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING *(University of Texas – Pan American to Receive \$232,460 grant)*

Edinburg, October 10, 2002 – USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel announced today \$232,460 in economic development to strengthen rural communities in Texas, as part of the Bush Administration’s ongoing commitment to invest and bolster programs for rural America. The funding will assist cooperatives in facilitating the retention of rural jobs through the development of cooperatives in rural areas.

The University of Texas – Pan American received \$232,460. The purpose of the grant is to promote rural economic development and facilitate the creation and retention of jobs in rural South Texas through the development of rural cooperatives, value-added processing, and rural business.

“Utilizing cooperative ventures to bring new economic opportunities to rural areas is an important part of creating new jobs in rural America,” said Daniel. “These grants will give rural residents the opportunity to expand and improve local businesses and economies.”

The [cooperative development grant](#) program is administered through USDA Rural Development Rural Business-Cooperative Service. The grants were awarded on a competitive basis and are intended to foster rural cooperative development through projects that provide rural residents with education and technical assistance in areas of cooperative startup, marketing and managing, and other self-help tools.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers financial and technical assistance through three agencies: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service and Rural Utilities Service. Further information on USDA Rural Development can be obtained by contacting any USDA Service Center or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

more

The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its

mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's 53 million rural people.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

#

